

BRAC IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY – February 16, 2010

- **John Carman called the BRAC Implementation Committee to order at 7:35 p.m.**

- **Phil provided his monthly BRAC Updates:**

- **TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS:**

- **UPDATED BRAC TRANSPORTATION MOBILITY PROJECT MATRIX, as of 12-28-09:**

http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/exec/brac/pdf/transpo_project_matrix-122809.pdf

- **10-6-09 Bethesda BRAC Transportation Investment Priorities:** A joint MDOT/MC-DOT memo listing phased implementation of projects and funding streams:

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/exec/brac/pdf/bracprojects-ticrs-100609.pdf>

- 11-17-09 Description of “Tiers” and “Phases” of Intersections Improvement Program:

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/exec/brac/pdf/intersections-tiersphases-summary-111709.pdf>

- **UPDATE ON FEDERAL FUNDING:**

- On December 19th, 2009 President Obama signed into law the FY2010 Defense Appropriations bill, which included a remarkable \$300 MILLION appropriation designated specifically for BRAC-related transportation infrastructure improvement at Bethesda and Fort Belvoir.

Recent Update: Congressional staff report that DOD is still working out the unique and complex logistics of redirecting \$300 million from the defense health care budget to public transportation projects.

- **1-21-10 COUNTY PLANNING BOARD STAFF BRIEFED PLANNING BOARD ON SHA INTERSECTIONS AND OTHER PROJECTS:**

- Planning Board staff, led by Larry Cole, briefed the Board on Thursday, January 21, 2010 on the status of the various BRAC-related transportation projects. BIC Chairman John Carman, MC-DOT Deputy Director Edgar Gonzalez, MDOT BRAC Coordinator Sean Massey, and County BRAC Coordinator Phil Alperson participated in the discussion.

- 1-14-10 Staff Background Memo for 1-21-10 Planning Board Meeting:
http://www.montgomeryplanningboard.org/agenda/2010/documents/20100121_Bethesda_Base_Realignment_and_Closure_000.pdf
 - 1-21-09 Video of Planning Board Meeting:
http://mncppc.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=2
- **DRAFT PURPOSE & NEED SUMMARY FOR MD 355 CROSSING PROJECT:**
 - MC-DOT published its DRAFT statement at the end of January and solicited public comments by February 5, 2010: https://mcg-a048/content/exec/brac/pdf/pedaccess-draft_nepa_purposeandneed-020110.pdf. Edgar Gonzalez noted that MC-DOT will post comments and MC-DOT's responses on the BRAC web site's MC-DOT/NEPA Page.
- **TIGER GRANTS MAY BE ANNOUNCED TOMORROW (Wed., Feb. 17).**
 - Three TIGER Grant applications affecting Bethesda BRAC are pending: the county's \$20 million request for the multi-modal pedestrian underpass; COG's \$267 million regional transit projects request which includes the underpass; and MDOT's \$60 million request for BRAC-related intersection improvements at Bethesda, Fort Meade, and Aberdeen.
- **Phil noted that some Committee members may be absent this evening** because of a conflicting meeting of the Western Montgomery Citizens Advisory Board, and that Joan Kleinman of Congressman Chris Van Hollen's office also had a conflicting event.
- **OTHER UPDATES:**
 - **NNMC:** Ollie Oliveria reported that NNMC may be ready to make a presentation at the March 16th meeting on plans for Gate improvements. Phase I construction of the hospital buildings is at least 80% complete. Tree trimming will take place along the northern edge of the campus; neighbors will be alerted when this work proceeds.
 - **MDOT:** Andy Scott noted that the monthly multi-agency transportation coordination meetings have been very helpful.

- **MC-DOT:** Regarding the Draft Purpose & Need Summary for the Proposed MD 355 Crossing Project, Edgar Gonzalez noted that MC-DOT will post comments and MC-DOT's responses on the BRAC web site's MC-DOT/NEPA Page
- **PARK & PLANNING STAFF PRESENTATION ON "LONG-TERM VISION"**
 - John Carter, Larry Cole, Dan Hardy, and Dave Anspacher of the County's Park & Planning Commission staff facilitated a session to help the Committee define its long-term vision for the area. They focused on the need to identify characteristics that would contribute to a greater vision, and led the Committee through an exercise to list and prioritize them. There was an effort to then crystallize a vision statement in one sentence; this discussion will be continued at a subsequent committee meeting, hopefully in March. The Park & Planning presentation and related notes are located on the BRAC web site immediately following this summary.
- **The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 16, 2010, 7:30 p.m., at the BCC Regional Services Center.**

Committee members in attendance, February 16, 2010:

Phil Alperson, County BRAC Coordinator
 John Carman, Committee Chairman
 Larry Cole, Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission
 Edgar Gonzalez, Montgomery County Department of Transportation
 Leslie Weber for Brian Gragnolati, Suburban Hospital
 Ilaya Hopkins, East Bethesda Citizens Assn.
 Ginanne Italiano, Greater Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chamber of Commerce
 Ed Krauze, Bethesda-Parkview Citizens Association
 John Abeles for Janet Maalouf, Maplewood Citizens Association
 Debbie Michaels, Glenbrook Village Home Owners Association
 Patrick O'Neill, Greater Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chamber of Commerce
 Andy Scott, MDOT
 Paul Thaler, Locust Hill Citizens Association
 Sara Morningstar for Melanie Wenger, Montgomery County Office of Intergovt. Relations
 Susan Hinton for Dan Wheeland, NIH

Ex-officio:

Susan Isenberg (Delegate Bill Bronrott)
 Ken Reichard (Sen. Ben Cardin)
 Martha Marrazzo for Joan Kleinman (Rep. Chris Van Hollen)
 Susan Buffone (Council Member Roger Berliner)
 Jeff Miller, NNMTC Transportation Program Manager
 David "Ollie" Oliveria, NNMTC BRAC Program Manager

Captain Daniel Zinder, NNMC Deputy Base Commander

Other Attendees

John Abeles, Bethesda Crest Home Owners Association

Dave Anspacher, Park & Planning Commission

Sara Benson, WMATA

Ian Bricknell, Aecom

John Carter, Park & Planning Commission

Gerald Cichy, Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)

Neil Greene, ACT

Dan Hardy, Park & Planning Commission

Richard Hoyer, ACT

Greg Humes, Chevy Chase Valley Citizens Association

Tracey Johnstone, ACT

Marilyn Mazuzan, Town of Oakmont

Avice Meehan, Howard Hughes Medical Institute

Jeanette Musil, DOD Office of Economic Adjustment

Debbie Spielberg (Councilmember Marc Elrich)

Ken Strickland, Chevy Chase Valley Citizens Association

Julie Woepke, Maryland DBED, Office of Military and Federal Affairs

Nkosi Yearwood, Park & Planning Commission